



# Indiana Department of Education

SUPPORTING STUDENT SUCCESS

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Superintendents

**FROM:** Lance V. Rhodes, Chief Financial Officer

**DATE:** April 17, 2009

**SUBJECT:** National School Lunch Program Equipment Assistance Grants

On Friday, April 17<sup>th</sup>, the Indiana Department of Education (IDOE) will begin accepting applications for National School Lunch Program Equipment Assistance Grants. These grants are administered by DOE and will come directly from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. In Indiana, approximately \$1.9 million will go toward the replacement or repair of school lunch equipment.

All organizations participating in the National School Lunch Program, including public and non-public schools, are eligible to apply for these competitive grants. Priority will be given to schools with at least 50% of students eligible for free or reduced – priced meals. The minimum cost of acquisition for each piece of equipment is \$5,000. Multiple pieces of equipment can be requested.

Among the factors to be considered when reviewing applications are:

- the number of students who will benefit
- the impact the new equipment will have on improving the food service program
- availability of matching funds
- how well the equipment request was researched and can be demonstrated to best meet the needs of the program

Schools may apply online at <https://dc.doe.state.in.us/DOEOnline/NSLP/GrantApplication.aspx>. The deadline for applications is Thursday, May 14, and recipients will be notified Monday, June 1. Grant recipients can anticipate the funds to be deposited on or around Monday, June 15, 2009. The United States Department of Agriculture strongly recommends funds be spent within three months of the award date.

For more information please visit our website, [www.doe.in.gov](http://www.doe.in.gov). Should you have any specific questions, contact Lisa Graves at [lgraves@doe.in.gov](mailto:lgraves@doe.in.gov) or John Todd at [jtodd@doe.in.gov](mailto:jtodd@doe.in.gov). They can also be reached by phone at (317)232-0850.